



6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, TX 78238

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEON VALLEY TREE ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting of the Leon Valley Tree Advisory Board (TAB) at 6:00 PM, on Thursday, August 23, 2012, in the Leon Valley City Hall, at 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, Texas.

I. Poll for Attendance, Determination of a Quorum, and Call Meeting to Order.

- Staff Liaison: Kristie Flores (Present)
- TAB Forester: Paul Johnson, Region Urban Texas Forester and Arborist (Present)
- Members Present: Thomas Benavides, Denise Berger Melinda Dawson, Mary Key, and Rich Sarfin
- Members Absent: Diana Sarfin
- Guests: Bobby Mengden, P.E. (of GGC Engineers, Inc. and contracted by Bexar County Flood Control as Project Manager for LC-17 Project), Laurie Hawkins (Arborist and Ecologist, J&L Consulting), Susan Frazier P.E. (of AECOM and Bexar County Flood Control Program Director), and Sia Sayyadi, P.E. (contracted Engineer for City of Leon Valley).

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes – July 18, 2012.

- Minutes corrected and approved.

III. Presentation Regarding the Bexar County Flood Control Project Termed LC-17 for Creek Expansion and Flood Mitigation Along El Verde and Jeff Loop.

- Mr. Mengden and Ms. Hawkins presented an overview of the LC-17 project in Leon Valley. Discussions are as follows:
 - Cost for the project is \$30M with \$1M set aside for vegetation and landscaping.
 - Segment I has been completed. It included hydrology studies, US Corp of Engineering application, property buy-outs, etc.
 - Segment II starts in January 2013. It includes channel widening just north of Ingram Road upstream to the city limit line between Leon Valley and San Antonio and will take approximately 18 months to complete.
 - Segment III starts sometime in the summer of 2014. It includes channel widening and realignment from the city limit line between Leon Valley and San Antonio upstream to Bandera Road and will take approximately 18 months to complete.
 - A total of 54 homes were removed for the project, 42 were on Jeff Loop and El Verde Rd.
 - The current floodplain which this project targets in Leon Valley is approximately 73 acres with the largest section being in the Leon Valley Ranch Estates neighborhood (Jeff Loop and El Verde Rd.).
 - Majority of the land purchased will be excavated to widen Huebner Creek.
 - Approximately 7 acres will remain to serve the community as a park.
 - Plan is to remove 1,267 trees (67 are Heritage Trees (24" diameter or greater) and 94 are Invasive Species).
 - There are 228 trees that will remain on the proposed 7 acre park. Additionally, 150 new trees will be planted.
 - The excavated channel will have a variety of native grasses planted that grow around 2' tall.
 - Drought conditions over the past two years has already claimed a number of trees.
 - There will be a 5 year maintenance period for newly planted trees.
- Paul Johnson provided the following analysis and comments regarding the tree preservation and mitigation plan:
 - City of Leon Valley ordinance requires at least 3000 plus trees to be planted to replace those being removed (1,267).
 - Current plan has a net loss of 889 trees which impacts the city's "El Verde by 2020" resolution. This is a green initiative that includes increasing the city's tree canopy by planting 10,000 trees by 2020.
 - Even if each tree was replaced and taking into account the survival rate of new tree plantings, it will take approximately 50 years to replace the current tree canopy.
 - The tree mitigation plan should be reviewed to see how it can be modified to help minimize the loss of so many trees.

IV. Nominations and Elections of TAB Officers 2012.

- The TAB Officers nominated and elected are as follows:
 - Chairperson: Denise Berger
 - Vice-Chairperson: Thomas Benavides
 - Secretary: Thomas Benavides

V. Executive Session in Accordance with the Texas Government Code.

- Not required.

VI. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.
- The next meeting of the TAB is set for Wednesday, September 19, 2012, at 6:00 PM, in the Leon Valley City Hall.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Denise Berger".
Chairperson